



Handpicked: Stories from the Field

A production of the Laurier Centre for Sustainable Food Systems

Episode 3:

“Take care of the land and the land will take care of you”: Discussing Climate Change with Members of the Ka’a’gee Tu First Nation in Kakisa, Northwest Territories

Featuring: Chief Lloyd Chicot, Melaine Simba, Andrew Spring

Discussion Questions

1. Before listening to this episode, what assumptions did you hold about the food system in Canada’s North?
2. How did hearing Chief Chicot and Melaine Simba’s experiences challenge or support your assumptions about food systems in Canada’s North? How did their experiences change the way you think about this?
3. Discussions of food security in the North tends to focus on the high cost of food at the grocery store. While Chief Chicot and Melaine Simba talked about the long trip to buy food, they emphasized the importance of getting traditional food from the land to their food system. How does climate change impact the way that residents of Kakisa access traditional food? How might climate change impact their access to traditional food in the future?
4. How are the people of Kakisa adapting to their changing landscapes and access to traditional food? What did they identify as their most important assets or strategies for dealing with the impacts of climate change? What can others learn from their approach?
5. Do you think that Canadian media accurately depicts food systems in Northern Canada? What might they be missing?